

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-07
NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00
DODE-00 CU-02 NSC-05 /066 W
-----121040Z 034293 /17

R 120818Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4506
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
USMISSION USBERLIN UNN
USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERLIN 5723

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: CSCE, PARM, MPOL, GE, US
SUBJECT: CSCE CONFIDENCE BUILDING MEASURES

REF: STATE 77171, PARA 6

1. EMBOFF DELIVERED NOTE AS REQUESTED REFTEL TO
AHNS-JUERGEN EBERT, CSCE AFFARIS, PLANNING SECTION
OF THE GDR MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS ON APRIL 7.
EBERT TOOK THE OCCASION TO REPEAT THE STANDARD
GDR POSITION THAT IT WOULD BE BETTER TO HOLD VEWER
MANEUVERS AND NOTED THAT THE GDR HAD NOT YET HAD
OCCASION TO NOTIFY ANY MANEUVERS SINCE THEY DID NOT
FALL WITHIN THE PARAMETERS OF THE FINAL ACT. EMBOFF
NOTED THAT CURRENT NOTIFICATION CAN BE CONSIDERED
TO BE VOLUNTARY BY THE US SINCE NUMBER OF TROOPS
INVOLVED FELL BELOW THE 25,000 SPECIFIED IN FINAL ACT.
WE WERE IN FAVOR OF PROVIDING INFORMATION CONSISTENT
WITH THE ACT WHEN IT WAS IN OUR PROVINCE TO DO SO.
EBERT NOTED THAT GDR FORCES HAD TAKEN PART IN A
WARSAW PACT MANEUVER IN POLAND A FEW MONTHS AGO
AND THE POLISH GOVERNMENT HAD NOTIFIED THE
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MANEUVER AND HAD INVITED OBERVERS FROM NATO CONTRIES.

2. EBERT SAID THAT IT IS THE GDR'S POSITION THAT
IT DOES NOT WANT TO SEND OBSERVERS TO NATO EXERCISES
BECUASE THE PRESENCE OF GDR OBSERVERS MIGHT IMPLY
THAT THE GDR HAD NO OBJECTION TO THE HOLDING OF
SUCH MANEUVERS. UPON QUESTIONING, EBERT SAID

THE GDR HAS NO MILITARY ATTACHE IN BONN WHO COULD BE INVITED TO OBSERVE NATO MANEUVERS IN THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC, "WHERE THE MAJORITY OF NATO MANEUVERS ARE HELD." HE STATED THIS IS A DISADVANTAGE FROM THE GDR'S POINT OF VIEW. EBERT BACKED OFF WHEN EMBOFF ASKED IF GDR WOULD SEND OBSERVERS IF IT HAD A MILITARY ATTACHE IN BONN, SAYING THAT WAS A THEORETICAL QUESTION. HE WAS UNABLE TO EXPLAIN THE CONTRADICTION BETWEEN NOT WANTING TO SEND OBSERVERS TO NATO EXERCISES AT ALL AND THE "INCONVENIENCE" OF NOT HAVING A GDR MILITARY ATTACHE IN BONN WHO COULD ACCEPT SUCH INVITATIONS TO NATO MANEUVERS IN THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC.

3. EBERT THEN HELD A FAIRLY LONG PERORATION TO THE EFFECT THAT THE FINAL ACT SHOULD BE IMPLEMENTED IN FULL AND THAT NO PARTICULAR PART SHOULD BE TAKEN OUT OF CONTEXT FOR SPECIAL ATTENTION. EMBOFF STATED THAT IT WAS HIS PERSONAL OBSERVATION THAT THE US INTENDED TO DEAL WITH ALL OF FINAL ACT BUT THAT IT IS SURELY UNDERSTANDABLE THAT WE MAY BE MORE INTERESTED IN SOME PARTS THAN IN OTHERS. EBERT ACCEPTED THIS POINT AND REPEATED THE LITANY ABOUT IMPLEMENTATION IN FULL.

4. EMBOFF ASKED IF EBERT CONSIDERED IT POSSIBLE THAT THE FINAL ACT COULD BE SUPPLEMENTED BY OTHER DOCUMENTS WHICH MIGHT BROADEN THE SCOPE OF THE FINAL ACT WHILE BEING FULLY CONSISTENT WITH IT AND CONFIDENTIAL

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NOT CHANGING ITS WORDING OR MEANING. EBERT RESPONDED THAT ONLY 20 MONTHS HAVE PASSED SINCE THE FINAL ACT WAS ADOPTED AND THAT THIS WAS A SHORT TRIAL PERIOD WHICH DID NOT GIVE ENOUGH EXPERIENCE TO DETERMINE IF THE FINAL ACT SHOULD BE EXPANDED. HE BELIEVED THE FINAL ACT SHOULD NOT BE CHANGED AFTER SO SHORT A PERIOD OF TIME. HE ADDED THAT IT WOULD IN ANY CASE BE DIFFICULT TO GET ALL 35 SIGNERS OF THE ACT TO AGREE TO ANY CHANGES IN THE WORDING OF THE ACT. HE THEN WENT ON TO SAY THAT IT IS CONCEIVABLE THAT THE BELGRADE CONFERENCE MIGHT AGREE ON SOME FURTHER STEPS (VERABSCHIEDUNG) WHICH WOULD BE CONSISTENT WITH AND HELP TO FULFILL THE FINAL ACT. AS AN EXAMPLE, HE NOTED THAT CULTURAL AFFAIRS MIGHT BE A POSSIBLE FIELD IN WHICH THE SIGNERS OF THE FINAL ACT COULD AGREE WAS A POSSIBLE AREA FOR FURTHER COOPERATION. ASKED IF HE WOULD CHARACTERIZE POSSIBLE SUPPLEMENTS ALSO AS EITHER AGREEMENTS (ABKOMMEN) OR SUPPLEMENTS (ERGAENZUNGEN), EBERT SAID

NO.

5. THE CONVERSATION CLOSED WITH EMBOFF EXPRESSING
INTEREST IN THE POSSIBILITY OF US REPS GETTING
TOGETHER WITH GDR REPS TO REVIEW THE FINAL ACT AS
PROPOSED BY THE US IN EARLY JANUARY 1977. EBERT
RESPONDED THAT THE PROPOSAL WAS TILL BEING "STUDIED".
(DR. GEYER OF THE USA SECTION OF MFA REPLIED TO A
SIMILAR QUESTION ABOUT TEN DAYS AGO THAT THE GDR
WOULD BE READY TO RESPOND IN THE MIDDLE OF
APRIL.) POLANSKY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COLLECTIVE SECURITY, POLICIES, TREATY COMPLIANCE, DIPLOMATIC NOTES, MILITARY EXERCISES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 12-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BERLIN05723
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770126-0465
Format: TEL
From: BERLIN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770468/aaaacgjo.tel
Line Count: 127
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: ea52bda6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 77171, 77 PARAMARIBO 6
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2837003
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CSCE CONFIDENCE BUILDING MEASURES
TAGS: PARM, MPOL, GC, US, CSCE, (EBERT, HANS-JUERGEN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/ea52bda6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009